Commodity	Percentage Variation
Gram Dal	-0.3
Arhar Dal	-2.7
Potato	-1.8
Onion	-0.3
Milk	0.0
Tea	-2.1
Sugar	-0.1
Salt	3.2
Vanaspati	0.0
Mustard Oil	0.2
Groundnut Oil	2.2
All Commodities	0.3

Decline in Water Table

*96. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a recent report that declining water table may result in no ground water in major States like Delhi, in as few as 15 years;

(b) which are the top five worst performing States in terms of decline of their water table; and

(c) what steps are being planned and taken by Government to remedy the current situation?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) As per the studies carried out by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources, the fresh water zones in some areas of Delhi will become unavailable for exploitation within the next decade if the present rate of exploitation of ground water continues. The worst affected areas of Delhi are South west and South districts, which have been notified by the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) for control and regulation of ground water development. In South West district where a lens of 10 to 30 meter potable water floats over brackish

water, the annual domestic draft is as high as 134 MCM (Million Cubic Meter) and the ground water levels are declining at the rate of 0.93 meter/ year. In South district, the maximum depth of water level has reached 59 meter and annual decline of ground water level is about 0.7 meter with domestic draft of about 82.6 MCM.

(b) The top five worst affected States in terms of decline of water table and over-exploitation of ground water resources are Punjab, Delhi, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Haryana.

(c) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to take steps to remedy the situation. Central Government has initiated/planned following measures to check over-exploitation and augmentation of ground water:—

(i) Circulation of a Model bill in the year 1970 which was re-circulated in 1992 and again in 1996 to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.

(ii) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development. The CGWA has notified 11 critical areas, including south and South West districts of Delhi, on consideration of over-exploitation of ground water resources. Further, the CGWA has also notified 32 over-exploited areas in the country for registration of ground water structures.

(iii) In 673 over-exploited and 425 dark/critical areas in the country, State Pollution Control Boards and Ministry of Environment & Forests obtain No Objection Certificate (NOC) from CGWA for any new industry/projects. A pre-condition for any permission is the mandatory adoption of rain water harvesting system by the industry/project for ground water recharge.

(iv) On similar lines, other developmental-projects located in Coastal Regulation Zone obtain NOC from CGWA as pre-requisite for environment clearance.

(v) The CGWA has issued directions to Group Housing Societies, Institutes, Hotels, Industries, Farm Houses etc. in the notified areas of Delhi, Faridabad, Gurgaon and Ghaziabad to adopt rain water harvesting system.

(vi) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water in the countrv during the VIII & IX Five Year Plans.

(vii) The CGWB has proposed a Centrally Sponsored Scheme at an estimated cost of Rs. 175 crores for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater and Rainwater Harvesting during the remaining part of the X Five Year Plan.

(viii) Circulation of Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend of ground water levels.

(ix) Central Ministries/Departments of Railways, Defence, Posts, Telecommunications, Central Public Works Department and National Highways Authority of India have been requested to provide roof top rain water harvesting structures in the buildings under their control.

(x) States/UTs have been requested to provide water harvesting structures in buildings under their administrative control.

(xi) All the States/Union Territories have been requested for advising the local bodies in their respective States/Union Territories to allow rebate in property tax to persons, who adopt roof top rainwater harvesting in their premises.

(xii) The Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation has amended Building Bye-laws, 1983, making provision for water harvesting through storing of water run-off including rain water in all new buildings on plots of 100 square meters and above in Delhi mandatory.

(xiii) CGWB has provided technical guidance on rain water harvesting to around 1800 agencies, including State Government agencies, educational institutions, private entrepreneurs and individuals.

(xiv) Launching of a website on Roof Top Rain water Harvesting (*WWW. cgwbindia.com*) to make aware and educate the public about various techniques of harvesting rainwater and store it for future use.

(xv) Organisation of mass awareness programmes and training courses on rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.

(xvi) Water conservation campaign has been launched keeping in view the various target groups like youth and children, women, farmers and villagers, policy and opinion makers. Publicity through print media, telecasting of spots on the television, broadcasting messages on radio, holding of seminars, workshops, conferences etc., have been undertaken for the purpose.

Narmada Rehabilitation Cost

*97. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has raised its claim for project rehabilitation cost in respect of Narmada Dam oustees against the Government of Gujarat or the Central Government at a review panel;

(b) if so, the nature and extent of the claim; and

(c) Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) According to the Governments of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan, the Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal (NWDT) Award stipulates that the entire cost of Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) of Sardar Sarovar Dam is to be borne by the Government of Gujarat. The Government of Madhya Pradesh has, therefore, put up its claim accordingly for R&R cost of Project Affected Persons (PAPs) in respect of Sardar Sarovar Dam to the Government of Gujarat as well as to the Review Committee for Narmada Control Authority (RCNCA).

(b) and (c) As per the information made available by the Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Limited, an expenditure of Rs. 1269.54 crore has been incurred upto September, 2004 on R&R of the PAPs of Sardar Sarovar Project (SSP). The expenditure incurred on R&R of the PAPs by the Governments of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat are Rs. 734.07 crore, Rs. 159.40 crore and Rs. 376.07 crore respectively.

Since the Government of Gujarat has shown reservation in sharing all the cost of R&R concerning SSP, the issue of sharing the cost of R&R was referred to the Attorney General of India by the Ministry of Water Resources in January, 2000 for his opinion as per the decision taken in the 6th meeting of the RCNCA.